

Church of the Holy Apostles

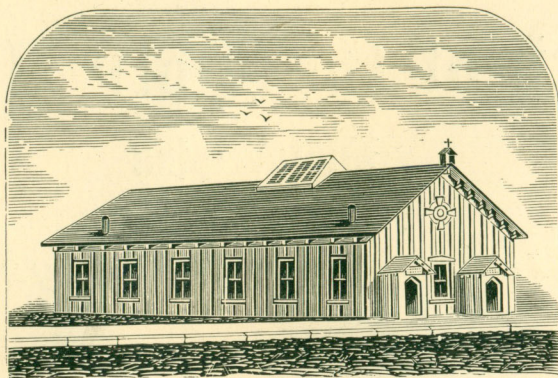
Philadelphia



1868

1928

A PICTORIAL HISTORY of the Church
of the Holy Apostles, Philadelphia, pre-
pared as a Souvenir of the Sixtieth Anniversary
of the Parish, January 26th, 1928.

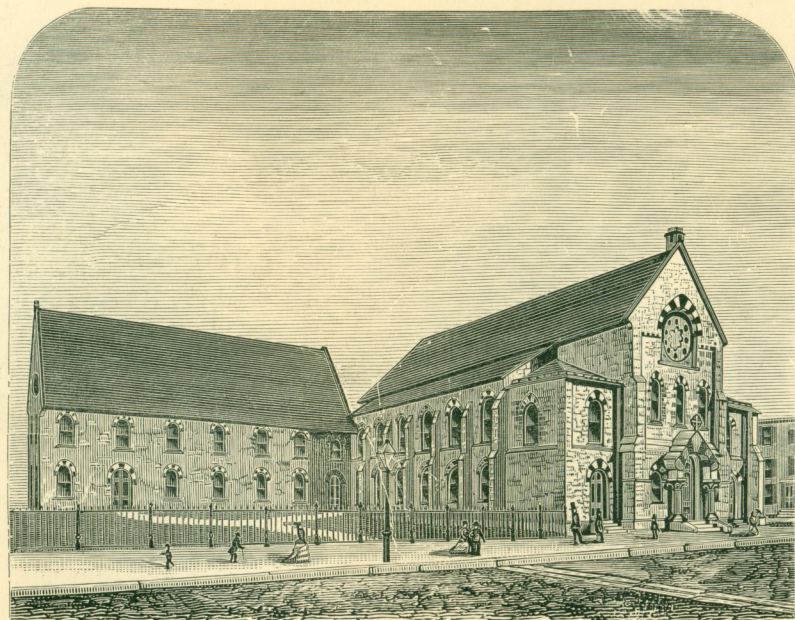


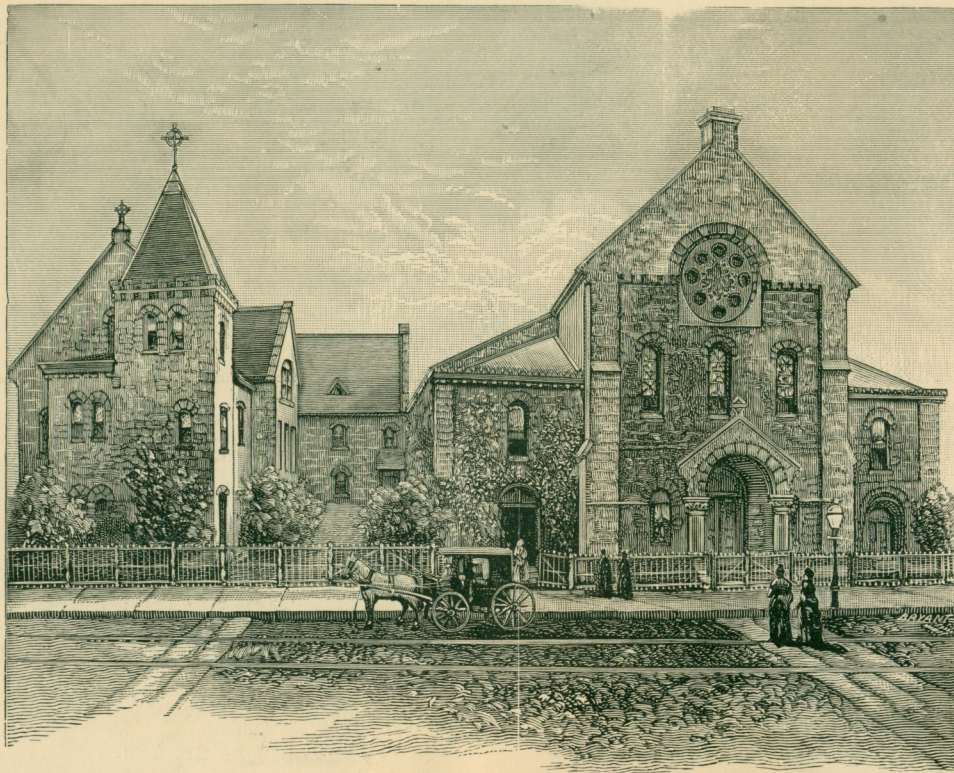
AS it was in the beginning. The first Church of the Holy Apostles—a frame building at Twenty-first and Christian Streets. Before the parish was organized this site was selected and the land purchased by Bishop

Brooks, then rector of Holy Trinity Church, and Mr. Lemuel Coffin. The first services were held in this building in the month of October, 1868. The building was given to the parish by Mr. John Rice.

THE stone church and Sunday-school buildings. The corner-stone of the church was laid on March 28th, 1870, and the church first used for services on Dec. 11th, 1870.

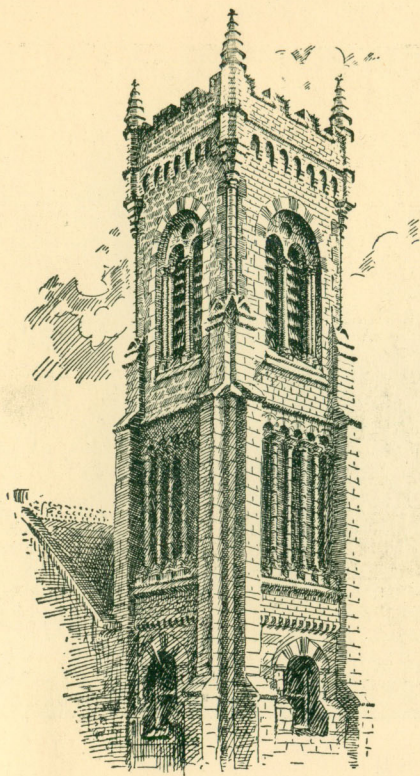
The Sunday-school building was first used on Feb. 16th, 1873.





THIS picture shows the church, a little of the old Sunday-school building, now the gymnasium, and the Phillips Brooks Memorial Guild House. This latter was the gift of Mr. and Mrs. George C. Thomas, presented to the parish on March 3rd, 1893.

THE tower was added to the Church building in 1901-1902, and was built by the parishioners and other friends of Mr. George C. Thomas as an "affectionate tribute" to him. It was dedicated on the feast of St. Philip and St. James, May 1st, 1902.





THE new Sunday-school and administration building, known as the Richard Newton Memorial Building. This building was built and given to the parish by Mr. George C. Thomas in 1902.

The building in the rear and to the right is the Phillips Brooks Memorial Guild House.

THE Church and the Richard Newton Building,
with a little of the Phillips Brooks Building show-
ing between.

This is the aspect of the Church buildings with
which we are most familiar.



Afterword

THE sequence of the growth of the buildings of the Church of the Holy Apostles is interesting. In the first place it was a growth, a development answering expanding needs, not an institution built all at once. It grew with the growing life of its people, and so became more intimately a part of them than otherwise it could be.

There is no room, nor need perhaps, in a leaflet like this to picture the other developments of the constantly expanding life of the parish, as is evidenced in its three chapels and various other parcels of real estate, such as Cooper Hall and houses for the clergy and other workers of the parish, held from time to time by the corporation. Nor is there need here and now to speak of the endowments and the great number of communicant members of the parish.

But there may be need and usefulness in stressing the fact that after all the real history of a parish lies not in its physical fabric nor in its material strength, but in its inner being, and that means the life of its members. And no parish life can rise higher than the average life of its members. There have been great souls at work here—Phillips Brooks, George C. Thomas, Charles

D. Cooper, to mention only a few of the many who have contributed much to make the Church of the Holy Apostles known and revered wherever the Church is known.

The next sixty years of the life of the parish may witness momentous and changing influences at work, but never again can there be exercised quite the potency and charm the parish life knew when it and its members both were young and growing together in the knowledge and love of God. But the old parish (really beginning, just beginning to be old at sixty years,) will go on to the years to come and to the experiences the years may bring, with resolution and courage because of the very character of its history, and keeping always something of its youth, because it is young at heart.

It will never really grow old, this beloved parish of ours. That is written—written indelibly in its type of being and the quality of its faith and life. That I know of it, and can confidently affirm, after my years of acquaintance with it. And let us thank God for its abiding youth, for in it lies rich promise of fulfillments in the years to come.